

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-11, 13-16, 23-27, and 30-32 are pending.

Applicants had previously withdrawn Claims 5, 12, 17-22, 28, and 29 as not being shown in the elected species Figure 12A. However, since Claim 3 was objected to and merged into Claim 1, the resulting generic Claim 1 covers all the species described in the specification. The limitations in Claims 1 and 3 apply to all species since these claims are directed to any backlight described in the application. Since Claim 1 is presumably now allowable, it is requested that the examiner reinstate the withdrawn Claims 5, 12, 17-22, 28, and 29.

The limitation in the original Claim 1 of "each LED emitting light through top and side portions of the LED" has been deleted as having no bearing on the patentability of the claim.


The phrase "the pitch" in Claim 3 (merged into Claim 1) has been changed to "a pitch" as requested by the examiner. Accordingly, the objection has been overcome.

Dependent Claim 16 was objected to by the examiner. The limitations of Claim 1 (except for the language "each LED emitting light through top and side portions of the LED") has been incorporated into Claim 16. Accordingly, Claim 16 is now allowable.

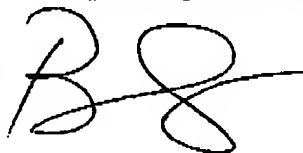
The limitations of Claim 3 have also been incorporated into the independent Claim 31, and Claim 31 has been amended like Claim 1. Accordingly, Claim 31 should be allowable.

As seen, all pending and previously withdrawn claims should now be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance of those claims is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions, please call the undersigned at (408) 382-0480 x202.

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Respectfully submitted,



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